5-1-97

VALLEY STAR

LOS ANGELES VALLEY COLLEGE

Volume 50, Issue 12

Thursday, May 1, 1997

HIGHLIGHTS

MUSIC

The **LAVC Wind Ensemble,** Michael Mertens, director, will perform in the LAVC Little Theatre Monday at 8 p.m.

The **LAVC College Choir and Chamber Singers,** Dianne Wintrob and Nick Strimple, directors, will perform at the Music Recital Hall, May 8 at 11 a.m.

The **LAVC Jazz Ensemble,** Woody James, director, will perform in the Music Building, room 112, May 9 at noon.

The LAVC Music Department presents the annual **Philharmonic Choir Spring Concert,** George Attarian, director, May 13 at 8 p.m. in the LAVC Little Theatre. Hae Sun Pope will be the accompanist in an evening of folk music.

THEATRE

The LAVC Theatre Arts Department will present two one-act plays: "Interview" and "Noon" Friday, Saturday and May 8, 9 and 10. Curtain is 8 p.m.in the Horseshoe Theatre. For reservations call (818) 778-0353.

SPORTS

The LAVC **Monarchs baseball** team will play against Pierce Community College at the Valley ballpark Saturday at 1 p.m.

ACADEMICS

The Spring 1997 **Counseling Lunchtime Workshop Series** will feature Clive Gordon speaking on: "How to study for finals and get an 'A' ," Tuesday, noon to 1 p.m. in Foreign Language, room 102.

Guaranteed registration for LAVC continuing students will be held Wednesday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. in Monarch Hall. Proof of enrollment (postcard or fee receipt) is required.

Corrected time: LAVC **Commencement ceremonies** for eligible students, will begin promptly at 4 p.m. May 22 in Monarch Stadium, not 5 p.m. as previously reported.

The Greater Los Angeles Chapter of the Association of Records Managers and Administrators **scholarship applications** are available in CC-100-A. Two $250 scholarships are available to those who meet the criteria.

CLUBS

A **Cinco de Mayo celebration** sponsored by M.E.Ch.A., the Valley College Latino club, will be held Friday from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. in Monarch Hall. The event includes Aztec dancers, guest speakers and a party following with D.J., dancing and food. The event is free.

The Valley Monarch Dance Team will hold a **"Hip-Hop Car Wash,"** May 10 from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Valley baseball field, on the corner of Coldwater and Burbank Blvd.

A **planetarium show,** "The Heart of the Milky Way," will be presented by the Astronomy Club and held at the LAVC Planetarium, May 9 at 8 p.m. Tickets are $3.50 general, $2.50 seniors and students with ASU cards.

POLICE WATCH

An apparent **attempted grand theft auto** occurred April 24 in lot C between 6:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. A window of a 1994 red Honda Del Sol was broken and the steering wheel was cut to remove the Club security device. The steering column was also damaged.

Information provided by Campus Police.

Armenian Genocide Remembered

■ **Campus Event: Students gather to commemorate the persecution of the Armenian people and fight future genocide.**

Photo courtesy of the Armenian Assembly of America

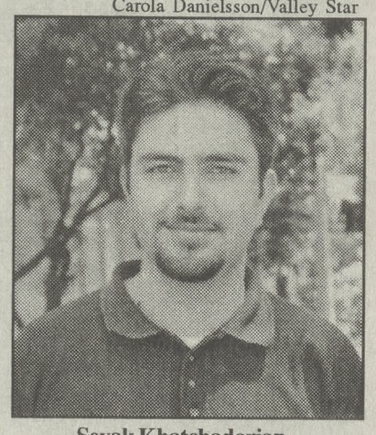
Skulls litter the countryside as evidence of those Armenian people who were slaughtered during the Armenian Genocide of 1915-23. April 24, 1997 has been designated as an official Remembrance Day which was commemorated by Valley College students last week.

By LINDA E. THOMAS
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Valley College students from diverse cultural backgrounds gathered in the Physics Lecture Hall last week to commemorate the Armenian Genocide of 1915-23 and subsequent persecutions of the Armenian people.

Guest speaker Peter Abajian of the Armenian Assembly of America read the recent California State Assembly Resolution which designated April 24, 1997 as "California Day of Remembrance for the Armenian Genocide."

Carola Danielsson/Valley Star



Sevak Khatchadorian President Valley College Armenian Student Association

California is home to the largest Armenian population of the United States, Abajian said.

The Armenian Genocide of 1915-23 was the first genocide of the 20th century and at least 1.5 million men, women and children lost their lives at the hands of the Turkish Ottoman Empire, according to the new legislation.

Additionally, for the seven decades of the USSR existence, Armenians were systematically persecuted and forcibly removed from their homelands. In 1988 and 1990, a second mass victimization of the Armenian people occurred in the former Soviet Union resulting in riots, murders and mass deportation of 350,000 Soviet Armenians.

See Armenian Page 2

ASU DISHES OUT FUNDS

■ **Student Government: Associate Student Union funds serve students and keep campus programs alive.**

By LINDA E. THOMAS
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The executive council of the Associated Student Union has given $62,703 of its $79,371 1996-97 budget directly to student related programs and events, according to a report by faculty advisor John Barnhart released Tuesday.

"The ASU provides an awful lot of services that would not be offered otherwise," Barnhart said. "For example, the library is open weekends. Those funds to keep it open are provided by the ASU."

Areas of major funding by the ASU include athletic, musical, tutorial and departmental programs as well as awards and other ceremonies.

"The students don't know what type of benefits the ASU gives for them," ASU Vice President Robert Tabrizi said. "Unfortunately, some people think the ASU doesn't do anything. When you see the list of all the places the ASU allocates funds, you'll see we're working for the students and to give to the students."

In addition to student related instructional programs, the ASU also sponsored several campus events this semester, including the Dean's Reception, student elections, Interclub Council activities,

See ASU Money Page 2

MAJOR FUNDING PROVIDED BY ASU

ATHLETIC PROGRAMS All Men's and Women's Teams	$ 6,600	
MUSICAL PROGRAMS Jazz Band, Choir, Classical Guitar, Concert Band, LAVC Orchestra, Campus Concerts, Choral Group	$ 6,550	
TUTORIAL PROGRAMS Biology Lab, Math Lab, Learning Center	$ 8,500	
DEPARTMENTAL PROGRAMS Astronomy, Nursing, Library, Child Development, ESL, Forensics, Honors Programs, Transfer Program	$15,245	
AWARDS AND CEREMONIES Dean's Reception, Student Elections, InterClub Council Activities, Award Luncheons, Graduation Commencement	$ 5,300	
Special Events	$15,000	$10,000 $5,000

Valley College Food Service Areas Clean Up

By LINDA E. THOMAS
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The County Health Department found in their second re-inspection Tuesday that the Valley College food service areas have much improved since earlier in the semester.

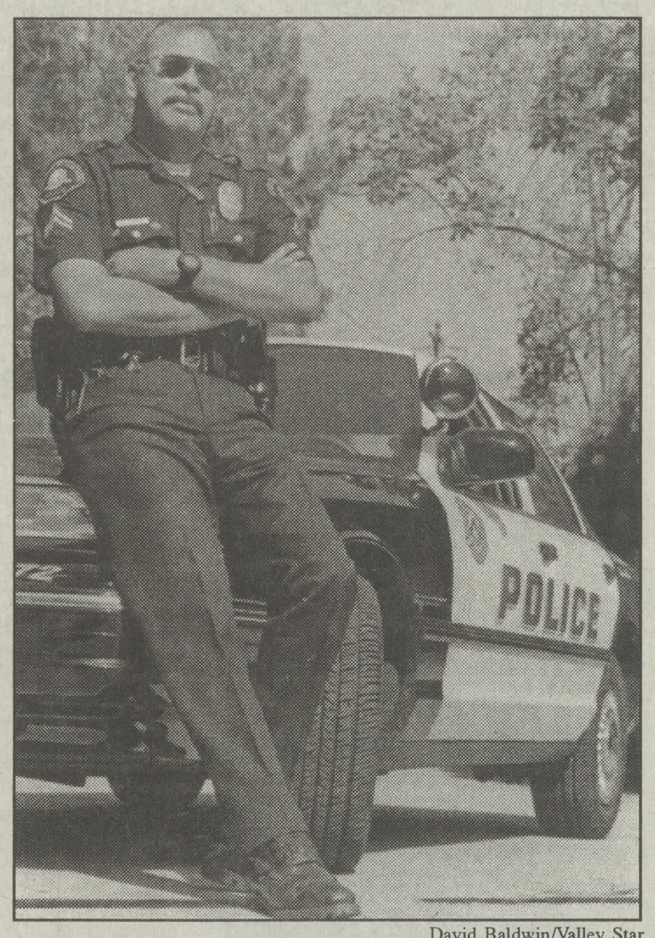
Health Inspector Michael Burk said that Valley College has significantly cleaned up since the first inspection discovered 50 campus-wide Health Code violations in February.

"Premises [are] much improved," according to Tuesday's official inspection report from the L.A. County Health Department.

The Valley College food service areas include the cafeteria, tennis court food satellite, arcade walkway food satellite and the coffeehouse.

"I was disappointed about the coffeehouse," Inspector Michael Burk said. "The cleaning was not to my satisfaction. If I don't get compliance I will be issuing a hearing notice to the LACCD."

See Health Page 2



David Baldwin/Valley Star

Valley College Police Officer Spencer Gosenson shows off his new badge, emblem and police car for the department.

LAVC Police Get New Look

■ **Campus Agency: Valley College Police trade old badges for new respect.**

By DAVID BALDWIN
STAR REPORTER

Valley College Police have a new and improved look: new badges, a new emblem and a new police car that cost $21,000.

"We feel we were looked upon as private security, not police officers," Officer Spencer Gosenson of the Community College Police Department at Valley College said. "The new additions are an attempt to remedy that situation."

The new badges were designed by the same person who designed the Los Angeles Police Department badges, Gosenson said.

"The new patches and badges give us an appearance similar to LAPD officers," Gosenson said.

With the change in appearance, Valley College officers said they hope to achieve a greater level of respect from students and faculty. While the campus police functions just as any other police agency, people have not been aware of that fact, they said. The officers maintain the same duties and train as rigorously as the LAPD.

"Students and teachers used to think of us as just private security, until they got a ticket or were arrested," Gosenson said.

The new Police vehicle is a 1996 Ford Crown Victoria. Also, all police cars have been repainted with a new emblem and slogan, "Dedicated to Truth, Service and Honor."

INSIDE

Valley College musician blasts a hot horn.

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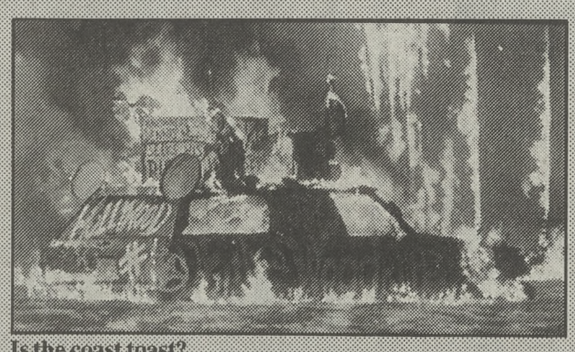

Is the coast toast?

Page 3

Baseball team slides toward end of season

Page 6

Photo Courtesy of Armenian Assembly of America

Three of the tens of thousands of Armenian women and children who died during the death marches of the Armenian Genocide.

The Valley Star understands that because of the graphic nature of this photograph, it may be controversial to some readers. The editorial board discussed this issue and decided that it was important to print this photograph to better show the injustice of an event of which many are unaware.

Students Recognize Official Armenian Remembrance Day

Continued from Page 1

"Recognition of these instances of man's inhumanity to man is crucial to ensuring against the repetition of genocide," according to the legislated resolution. "Despite the abundance of overwhelming and convincing evidence, the government of Turkey persists in denying the occurrence of the Armenian Genocide."

Guest speakers spoke of how the business, agricultural, academic and artistic contributions the Armenian-Americans have enriched California and the nation.

The legislation also resolved to call upon California to support Armenians undergoing persecutions in the former Soviet Union today where they are being forced from their homes and land because for crude oil deposits.

"We trust the U.S. will not crucify the Armenians on a cross of oil," Sevak Khatchadorian, President of the Valley College Armenian Student Association, said. "This April 24, Armenians remembered the suffering of our forefathers and we reaffirm our commitment to promoting understanding of this crime against humanity."

Khatchadorian said that Armenian students must remain committed to the notion that history must never repeat itself.

"Who, after all, speaks today of the annihilation of the Armenians," Adolf Hitler said on the eve of World War II and the Jewish Holocaust.

It was the position of the Armenian students and speakers that if the world had recognized the Armenian Genocide just a few years before WWII and taken heed to it, the Jewish Holocaust could possibly have been avoided, they said.

"We need to recognize that genocide does happen and denial does happen," Abajian said. "Others will surely banish if the lessons are not learned."

Poignant videos were shown of historical records and testimonies of genocide survivors. Seventy-five percent of the then existing Armenian population perished by horrific murders by sword, fire and mass drowning, torture, forced starvation and death marches, Abajian said.

"Probably one of the greatest tragedies that ever befell any group."

- Jimmy Carter

"What lesson can we learn from these horrific crimes that occurred in our century?" Abajian asked the students. He said that genocide begins with fear, hate, bigotry and jealousy and "small violations of human rights," such as prejudices, language or religious oppression, censorship and book banning. Such small practices often lead to a climate of tyranny, direct persecution and murder, Abajian said.

In the death marches, tens of thousands of women and children were starved to death, burned alive, pushed off cliffs and drowned or gruesomely murdered, Abajian said.

"The Euphrates river ran red," Abajian said. Families were forced from their homes and men were slaughtered in the fields in mass executions and bodies were left to the dogs, he said.

Provoking questions were posed to the students such as: Do you stand against minority injustices? Do you protest in the classroom? Are those who do not protest guilty also? What can be done to prevent future genocide atrocities?

Students' answers suggested protest, education, remembrance and offering immediate help to persecuted peoples as preventative measures.

"I came today for remembrance and to pay respect to the people who died and were massacred," Valley College student Nick Megrabyan said.

In 1978, U.S. President Jimmy Carter said it was generally not known in the world that there was a concerted effort made to eliminate all the Armenian people.

"Probably one of the greatest tragedies that ever befell any group," Carter said. It is only this month that California has officially recognized the Genocide.

"It is important for us to be here today," Valley College student Liana Vaganyan said. " It was our ancestors that were murdered and the world has not recognized as it should because history repeats itself."

SPECIAL PROFILE

Liana Vaganyan

"I'm very sad, upset and terrified that, especially up to this date, the world doesn't recognize what happened to Armenians."

One Life Speaks Out

By LINDA E. THOMAS
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Eight decades ago a small 4-year-old girl marched the deserts of western Asia. Days before, she had witnessed the brutal murder of her parents. Naked and starving, she watched ten sisters and brothers horribly die: drowned, starved or burned to death. Somehow, she survived the death march and escaped to an orphanage in what is now the former Soviet Union.

Valley College Student Liana Vaganyan, 19, is only one representative of the young Armenian generation of today that has horrific stories to tell of her family's sufferings. The little girl that marched the death march was Vaganyan's grandmother, her only family survivor of the Armenian Genocide.

"Thousands of innocent children's, men's and women's lives were taken," Vaganyan said with tears welling in her eyes. "A million and a half of innocent people were murdered because one government decided to destroy a race in an inhuman way, a horrible way to kill."

One of the most important desires in Vaganyan's life is that the persecutions of the Armenian people be told.

"I'm very sad, upset and terrified that, especially up to this date, the world doesn't recognize what happened to Armenians," Vaganyan said. "History repeats itself. It happened in 1915. It happened in 1988. It can happen again."

In 1988, Vaganyan was living in what is now the former Soviet Union. She was barely 10-years-old when she began hearing of severe persecution against the Armenian people, again.

"I don't remember how it started," she said. "I heard the Turks started to bother Armenians, beat them up. At school, kids were not safe They couldn't fight back, they had no power. There were too many Turks. The just came into our houses and beat you up. They closed our churches and schools. You weren't allowed to speak Armenian. Just like 1915."

The persecutors would go into homes in the middle of the night, she said, and beat people and torture them. Vaganyan paused for a long time before she spoke.

"My parents would always tell me about the Genocide, and I studied it in school." she said."Everyone started talking about that tragedy happening again. As a child, I was very concerned about what would happen next, to me, to us. The murders I would hear about would hurt my heart."

In that same year, 1988, a 8.8 earthquake hit Vaganyan's homeland - 100 times stronger than the quake that shook LA. in 1994.

"My father helped to find children," she said. "It was unbearable. My dad couldn't sleep for months and months seeing all that. He still heard crying voices in his ears for months and months."

More of her Vaganyan's family perished during the earthquake.

"We never thought about leaving our country, especially my dad," she said. "Everything was changing. The Soviet Union was breaking apart. That was the beginning."

Even though her father did not want to go, she said, he applied for a visa on the last possible day in hopes of a better life for his family.

"The fatherland is very important to an Armenian," she said. "We even have a special word for 'fatherland' than cannot be translated into English."

Vaganyan and her surviving family left their homeland and came to the United States when she was 13.

"It was very hard for me, extremely hard," she said. "I used to cry everyday. It took a lot of hard work to get back on our feet. We started with zero. We felt helpless and worthless."

She still thinks about her homeland and how different it is in California.

"I even feel the difference in the air," she said. "It's very hard over there, though. If an American person went to my country, I don't think they could live there even one day."

Vaganyan's grandmother, who lives with her here in Southern California, has survived great trials to see her granddaughter flourish.

"Today, I feel very proud of myself because I came through with hard work," Vaganyan said. "I'm going to get my AA and transfer to UCLA."

In addition to her studies, Vaganyan is a student police worker with the Valley College Police. She said she wants to go to law school and become a prosecutor. Although she has no heirlooms from her homeland, she has brought much to this nation.

"I want the world to know that even though Armenians are small in number, they have a big heart," she said. "No matter what, they will survive. We work hard. We have family values. We know what our ancestors went through. Every Armenian has an incurable scar on their heart which will never be forgotten."

Health Department Re-Inspects Cafeteria and Campus Food Areas

Continued from Page 1

At the re-inspection Tuesday, the coffeehouse had 75 percent compliance, Burk said.

"The coffeehouse had three-quarters compliance. Four small issues remain: dirty floor sink near coffee self-server, dirty floor by Snapple cooler, the rear counter needs cleaning and there was trash in the back that needed to be dealt with," Burk said Tuesday.

The cafeteria was reported in compliance of the previously violated codes, however new problems were found in Tuesday's re-inspection, Burk said.

Broken wall areas and missing light diffusers were some new problems listed in Tuesday's report concerning the cafeteria.

Senior Food Service Manager Albert Fierro was ordered by Burk to thoroughly clean several areas in the cafeteria including ceiling and vents over the self-serve area, cookline areas and janitorial and supply areas, according to Tuesday's re-inspection report.

"I told Albert to get all that stuff out and cleaned up, also some holes in the wall," Burk said.

The Health Department scheduled another re-inspection May 29, Burk said.

West Valley District Health Department Supervisor Arnoldo Juarez said that regular inspections are not scheduled for public colleges.

"Inspection of public colleges are on a complaint basis only," Juarez said.

Unless it is a re-inspection, Juarez said, the Health Department will not inspect Valley College unless someone calls in a complaint. To lodge a complaint or express a concern, contact the West Valley District Health Department at (818) 834-3370.

"We had some items pending," Burk said. "We will return until whatever we have in writing is abated."

"Maintenance was neglected for a long time," Fierro said.

Valley College Vice President Mary Ann Breckell, who is responsible for the food service areas, said she has no plan to investigate why there were so many Health Code violations this semester nor why there had not been a Health Department inspection for more than a year.

"I would disagree with Fierro that maintenance has been neglected for a long time," Breckell said. "Maintenance is responsive when they are apprised of the situation."

Breckell said that she did not know why maintenance was not apprised of the previous food service area problems.

"I don't know where the problems began," Breckell said. "It's a huge campus. We have people who are supposed to report problems to us."

Breckell said Fierro is to conduct inspections to help prevent future violations.

"Albert [Fierro] is doing cafeteria inspections. He's aware of the Health Codes," Breckell said.

ASU Money Helps Students

Continued from Page 1

Women's Day celebration and Culture Week. ASU will also fund M.E.Ch.A.'s Cinco de Mayo celebration Friday, the Dance Department performance May 10 and the Graduation Commencement May 22.

"If people would join ASU, it's only $7, a reasonable amount for all it does and for the student discounts it offers," ASU President Patricia Tejeda said.

Some student service programs would not make it until the end of the semester if not for the ASU stepping in with emergency funds, Tejeda said.

"The Math Lab, for one, ran dry of money two to three weeks ago," Tejeda said. "We gave them funds to support them for the rest of the semester because students will really need that tutoring to get them through finals."

The ASU executive council attended a workshop conference in San Francisco Saturday and Sunday training in such areas as leadership, organization, budgeting and activity planning.

"We attended the conference to learn to better serve the students on campus," Tabrizi said. "We want them to know we bust our butts. We don't sit around and play patty cake. People should know we're really doing a lot."

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The Heat is On

By LIZ BARRETT
STAR REPORTER

Molten lava and choking ash cover Los Angeles as the audience grips its armrests and yells out "run!" to the movie screen.

Who would have thought that a few tremors would actually be opening up the earth to allow a volcano to erupt on L.A.'s Wilshire Boulevard? Certainly not the people living there.

Tommy Lee Jones plays Mike Roark, director of L.A.'s Office of Emergency Management, a divorced father who is on a week vacation when the earthquakes start. His dedication to his work brings him back to investigate the damage caused by the tremors. What he didn't realize was that there was a lot more damage than just a few power lines down and a broken water main.

Cal Tech seismologist, Dr. Amy Barnes, played by Anne Heche, warns Roark of the possibility of a geological event such as a volcanic eruption occurring. Her premonition stems from the fact that the water in a pond near the La Brea Tar Pits is heating itself at an alarming rate.

Streets begin to crack and the Tar Pits boil as underground tunnels are filled with the fiery lava reaching temperatures of 2000 degrees centigrade.

Gigantic lava bombs destroy such landmarks as the Los Angeles County Museum of Art and the Folk Art Museum as the audience watches in disbelief.

We realize that Mother Nature can be pretty ferocious when she wants to be.

The audience cheers on Roark the whole way as he devises plan after plan to save the city from its certain doom.

"Volcano" is guaranteed to keep you on the edge of your seat as you cover your eyes and peek through your fingers. This is non-stop action at its best as buildings fall, windows are blown out and fire rages through a once calm Beverly Hills.

Los Angeles will never seem the same.

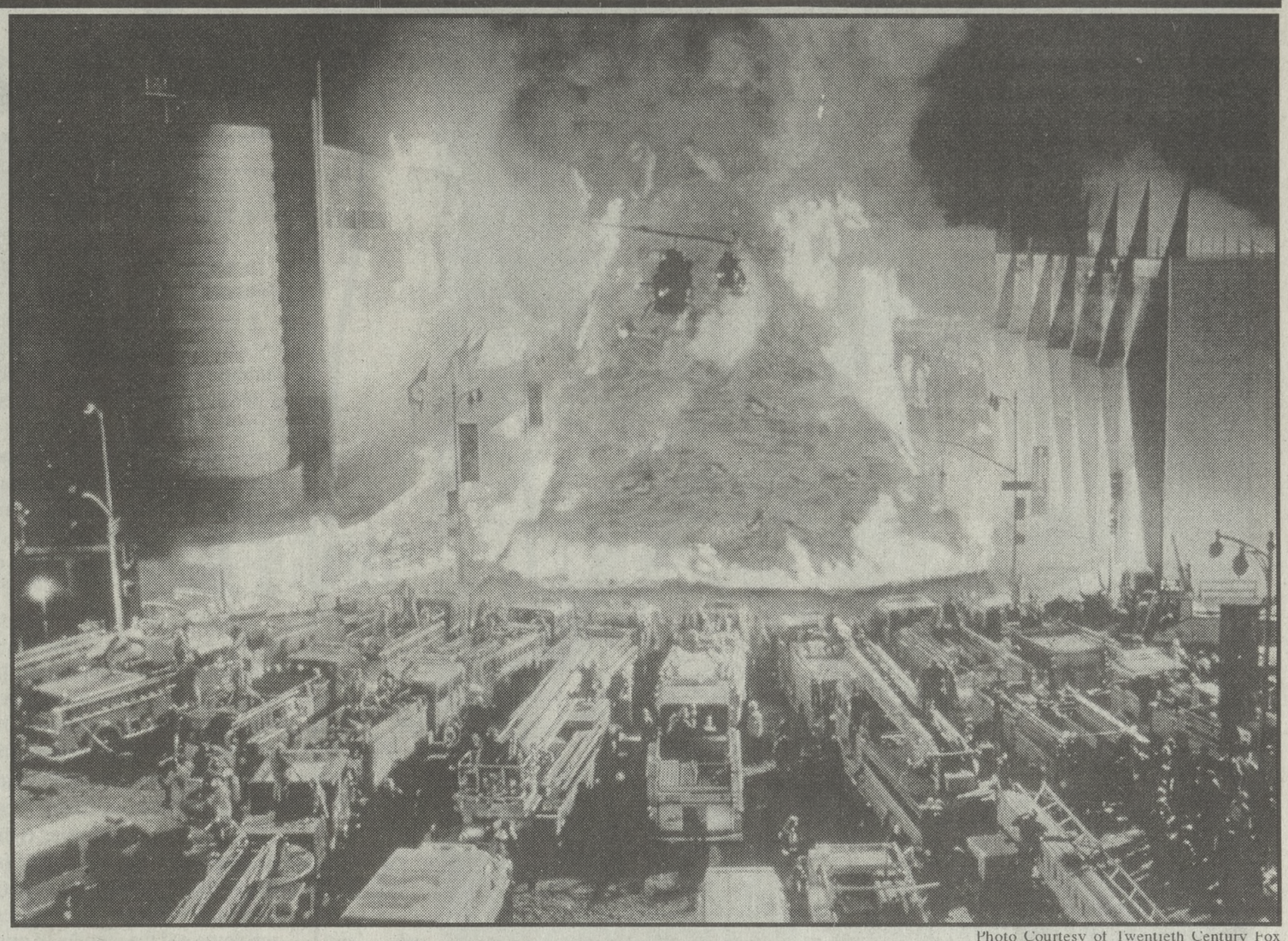

Photo Courtesy of Twentieth Century Fox

Wilshire Boulevard is engulfed by steaming hot lava as firefighters struggle to tame it.

Photo Courtesy of Twentieth Century Fox

Mike Roark, Tommy Lee Jones, trys to save his daughter Kelly, Gaby Hoffmann, from a fiery doom in "Volcano."

'Volcano:' A Movie-Goer's Perspective

By ALICE GARABEDIAN
ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Picture this: It is a typical day in Los Angeles and you're driving down Wilshire Boulevard. At a stop light, you spot the La Brea Tar Pits. While admiring the dinosaurs, all of a sudden the water begins to boil and you're sitting there thinking it's part of some show. You proceed to drive into traffic when you glance in your rear view mirror and see hot, steaming lava engulfing the cars behind you.

Seem real? That is exactly how I felt walking out of this movie. This is what all audience members will encounter after seeing this flick.

While walking out of the movie theater, I noticed that I was on Wilshire and began having flashbacks. Remembering how the lava took over the city made me feel that I was in the movie. Having that earthquake occur during the middle of the night didn't help me sleep better either.

This is a fast-paced movie. It flows well and you're never lost and wondering "But whatever happened to him?" "Volcano" has all a good movie should have: humor, danger, speed and family life. It is all rolled into a two hour film that you will never forget and won't mind seeing again.

This movie shows how strangers can work hard to save other people. And how people do value their own lives, but aren't cold-hearted enough to watch someone else die two feet away from them.

Realistically, there won't be an eruption occurring on Wilshire any time soon, but at least now we'll know what to do.

The special effects were better than expected. Seeing the lava come up and over all the cars and into buildings, was very believable.

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OPINION

If I Wanted Your Opinion...

This Week's Topic: Environmentalism

By LEO "TIGER" SMITH
STAR REPORTER

In case it isn't already abundantly clear, I hate people.

It's true! I would much rather see a lumber mill of one thousand employees go under than sacrifice a single spotted owl for human greed.

Perhaps this reasoning doesn't spring from my loathing of humanity as much as my reverence and endearment to nature. Either way, ecology before economy, death to the detractors.

You don't have to look far to see the effect the malignant cancer of humanity is having on the environment. Meadows have been optioned out for mini-malls and skyscrapers outnumber the trees in this self-imposed purgatory we languish in. Less noticeable to the average urbanite, is the equally insidious destruction of far off rain and old growth forests, wholesale slaughter of inumerous rare fauna and the plunder of pristine wilderness. All these heart wrenching atrocities are committed in pursuit of the almighty green back.

Whether it is a redirected sense of "manifest destiny" or thrill of destruction that drives Americans as well as others to exploit the environment in a hell bent capitalistic frenzy is debatable. Whatever the reason, it is no less deplorable.

"You don't have to look far to see the effect the malignant cancer of humanity is having on the environment."

No excuse can defend the raping of Brazilian and Indian rainforests for grazing land or wood. Some will claim the deforestation is done for the benefit of the people. I say no number of people is worth that cost. When countries have to resort to slaughtering piss-poor wood for lumber and using the barren land of ex-rainforests for cattle grazing, there is a bigger problem to solve than a trillion acres of forest can answer.

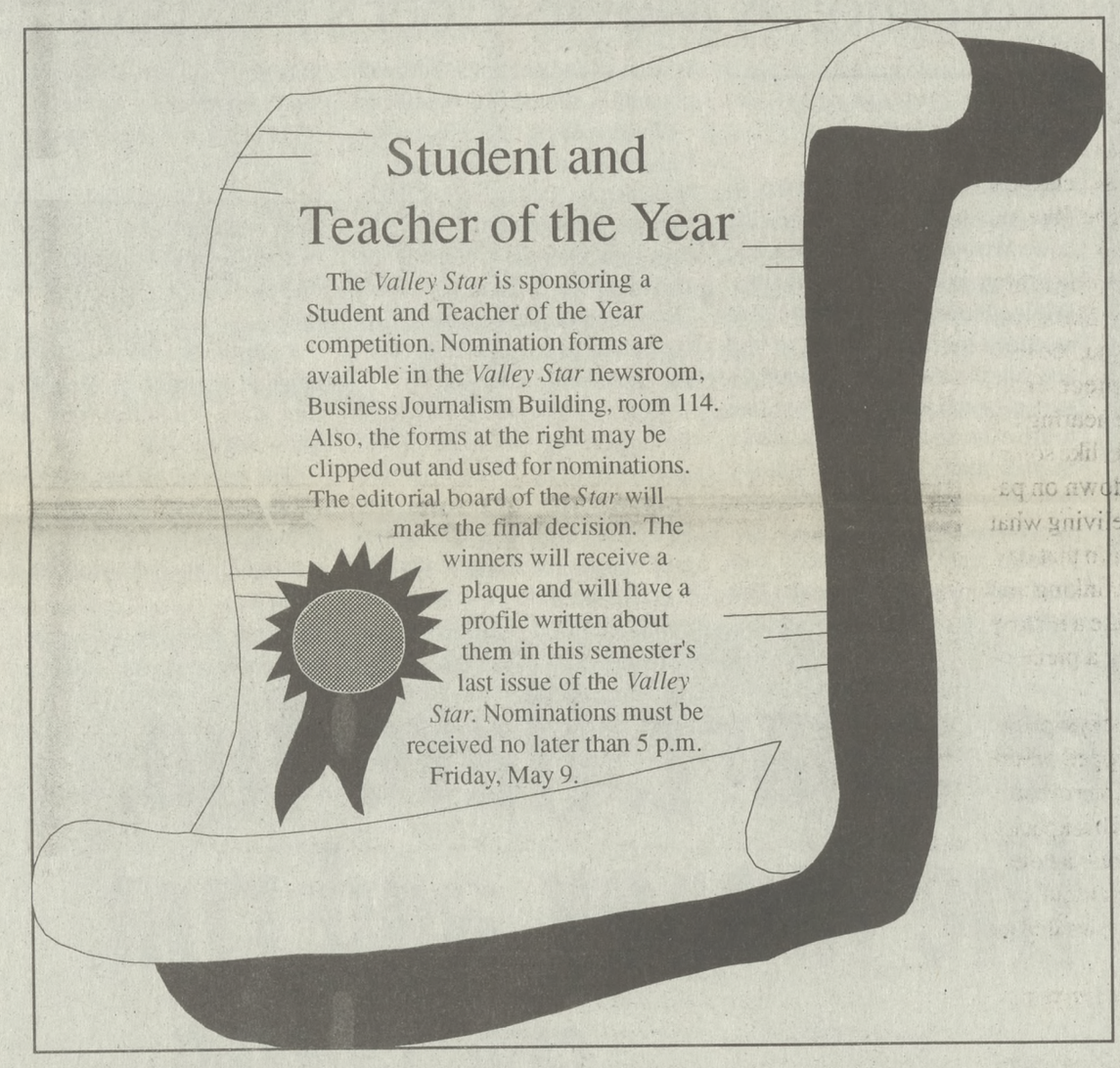
The same goes for Americans in the lumber and fishing industry: Back off! Old growth forests in the U.S. are dwindling faster than gangster rappers. Commercial fisherman are all experiencing record low catches of salmon, cod and other staples of their business.

It seems the only way to prevent further losses to these natural resources is to ban their harvesting. The number of displaced workers and lost revenue that would result from this, as well as all the bitching and moaning, are insignificant next to the alternative: the extinction of a species.

Whether it is a microscopic organism or a Sequoia at risk doesn't matter. The simple fact is that no hardship placed on the human race is a reasonable rationalization for the genocide of an entire species.

Humanity is a cancer in need of some serious chemotherapy.

Next Week: Animal Testing



Student and Teacher of the Year

The *Valley Star* is sponsoring a Student and Teacher of the Year competition. Nomination forms are available in the *Valley Star* newsroom, Business Journalism Building, room 114. Also, the forms at the right may be clipped out and used for nominations. The editorial board of the *Star* will make the final decision. The winners will receive a plaque and will have a profile written about them in this semester's last issue of the *Valley Star*. Nominations must be received no later than 5 p.m. Friday, May 9.

Student of the Year Nomination Form

Student's Name: _____

Major: _____

Activities involved in on campus: _____

Why does this student deserve to be named *Valley Star's* Student of the Year: _____

_____

Teacher of the Year Nomination Form

Teacher's Name: _____

Department: _____

What has this teacher done that makes you feel that he/she deserves to be named as Teacher of the Year: _____

_____

Liz Strikes Back: Give Children Their Innocence Back

By LIZ RODRIGUEZ
OPINION EDITOR

In the news I heard about a little boy named Anthony Martinez. I knew he was missing, and it broke my heart. A long while later, I heard that the little boy was found. At first, I was delighted, then I heard that he was found dead. I became enraged.

Many children have or are becoming victims of kidnap and abuse. Reports of child molestation, abductions and pornography are seen almost every day in the news.

The news about a little boy who was sexually molested at a McDonald's men's room, petrified me. The possibility that I would not be able to protect my child from abuse is overwhelmingly frightening. It also makes me extremely angry and I wish I could do anything to get rid of these guys in the fastest most painful manner.

"It disgusts me that such people are allowed to remain on Earth . . . All they do is cause children, and their families, pain and emotional scars that will last them a lifetime."

These bastards don't deserve to live. I don't care what kind of a terrible childhood these criminals had. It should never be an excuse for such perverse behavior. I can't imagine what goes through these monsters' minds when they destroy a child's innocence.

I hope they find whoever did this to Anthony Martinez and that he will be put on display to be punished in the sickest way possible.

It disgusts me that such people are allowed to remain on Earth. Why can't they be put away, they are of no benefit to us. All they do is cause children, and their families, pain and emotional scars that will last them a lifetime.

These people should be publicly humiliated, like in the old days. I suggest public caning. They should have some kind of stimulant that would intensify their pain, then their limbs should be cut off with a butter knife. Then, they should be left out under the sun to be picked away by animals.

I work at a child care program. The first time I heard a lecture on detecting signs of child abuse, it disturbed me. Children are so beautiful, I could not believe that anyone would be able to lay a harmful hand on them. Now, I wonder if there will ever be a day when a child will truly remain untainted and undamaged. They won't, unless we get rid of these predators.

Please, children are our future, let's do our hardest to protect them.

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LETTERS * LETTERS * LETTERS * LETTERS * LETTERS

The *Valley Star* will receive and, if possible, publish letters from its readers. The Star reserves the right to condense all letters for space considerations. Submitted letters should be limited to 250 words. Letters are subject to editing if they are obscene, libelous, or make racial, ethnic, religious, sexist or sexually oriented denigrations. Letters must be signed and include student's ID number. Letters may be left with the *Valley Star* at BJ 114 by Monday morning for the following Thursday.

Young Man With a Horn

Blasts a Path to Fame

■ **Profile:** Top Valley College music student blows a hot horn with professional orchestra.

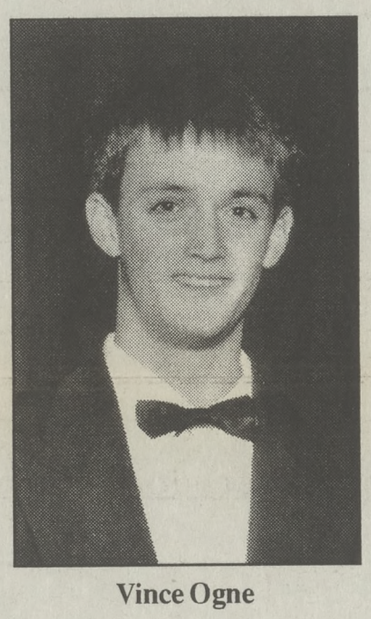
BY LINDA E. THOMAS
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

At three minutes to curtain, a young tuxedo-clad horn player strides through the back stage door cool as a cucumber. With quick surgical skill, he pops open his brown leather trombone case and lifts his brass horn from its velvet nest like it was gold. He meticulously arranges his sheet music and polishes that brass until it flashes in the spotlight. He sits straight and ready to blow. It's show time.

Vince Ogne, an 18-year-old Valley College freshman, is the only student member of the Valley Symphony Orchestra. Ogne auditioned last fall against professional trombonists and beat them out of a coveted position with the professional group.

His colleagues in the horn section call him "the kid."

"It felt good to get in," Ogne said. "And, it feels good to stay in, because if someone better comes along, I'd be bumped out."



Vince Ogne

"I think it's something that some people are born with. It's a way of expressing myself. Some people use words; well, my way is through my horn."

The best way to stay in, Ogne said, is to show up for rehearsal and practice, practice, practice. A 6x8 foot sound-proofed studio cell in the Valley College music building is his home away from home at least two hours a day.

"Sometimes I pack in a whole Saturday or Sunday, playing all day," he said.

The VSO is only one concert group Ogne plays with. As a music major, he is also a member of the Valley College Wind Ensemble, LAVC Orchestra, LAVC Choir, and he jazzes it up with the Valley College jazz band.

"I think it's something that some people are born with," he said. "It's a way of expressing myself. Some people use words; well, my way is through my horn."

Five years ago, Ogne took up the trombone.

"My views have changed since I started," he said. "I thought it would be easy, just two tubes, something to fill my time. Then, I started to fall in love with it."

After playing a while, Ogne happily found his grandfather had played a trombone in high school.

"It's in my genes," he said with a smile.

When Ogne's not playing, he's listening.

"That's one of the biggest things about being a musician - you can improve with listening to what else is going on," he said. "Wherever there's a concert, I go. I like all kinds of music: classical, rock, pop, jazz, reggae."

Many an Ogne evening is spent at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion and especially the Hollywood Bowl listening with family and friends.

"Anyone who will go with me," he said.

He strategically chooses seats for the best acoustics. Music is the serious focus.

"Once, I took a sandwich to the Hollywood Bowl," he said, "But I didn't eat it, I was too busy listening."

Although he said he likes all kinds of music, classical speaks to Ogne like no other music can.

"Playing each one is like hearing a story, like someone talking to you," he said. "To play a piece from Mozart is like hearing the story of his life, like someone wrote it down on paper. It's like reliving what happened to him that day, what he was thinking and feeling. It's like a history book, reliving a piece of music."

During his last symphony concert, he hopped off the stage and joined his friends for a chat during intermission — he in tuxedo and bow tie, they in jeans and backpacks. His loyal fans sat right up front, so as not to miss a note.

"He's always had really good chops," a friend said.

One straightened his bow tie while the others smiled on proudly.

"He really loves music, so he gets involved in everything," another friend said.

With mere seconds to go, he hopped back on stage, regained his professional demeanor and joined his associates of at least twice his age. His comfortable exterior sometimes only hides a few rattling 18-year-old nerves.

"I still get nervous when I don't practice enough on a certain section of music, especially when I'm playing with a high profile orchestra like Valley Symphony," he said. "You've just gotta deal with it. You sit there and struggle. You can't exactly sit out! Yea, it makes you want to practice."

At the close of the concert he grabbed a humble piece of brown cloth.

"I always have that rag with me," he said. "Every time I pick up my horn, I polish it — fingerprints and all. Everything's got to be gone."

When he's not polishing his trombone, he's polishing his '79 powder blue Corvette.

"I work on my Vette when I have the time," he said. "I'm still paying for it — slowly, but someday, it'll be mine."

Ogne said he plans to continue his music education at UCLA and some day teach. Meanwhile, he pictures himself on the stage at the Hollywood Bowl blasting away with the L.A. Philharmonic.

After his Stradivarious No. 42 was packed away, he dashed out to friends waiting at his Corvette. He peeled off his tuxedo in the parking lot, with shorts and a T-shirt already underneath.

"I wear them under the tux," he said, laughing, "It's a faster getaway, but it sure did get hot up there tonight."

Valley College music student Vince Ogne prepares for another professional concert.

Photos by Maria Ivey/Valley Star

Valley College music student Vince Ogne blasts away for the Valley Symphony Orchestra.

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Track Meet Results

Western State Conference Meet

Men-
1st- Bakersfield- 246
2nd- Moorpark- 227
3rd- Glendale- 71
4th- Ventura- 69
5th- Santa Monica- 67
6th- Valley- 64
7th- West L.A.- 63
8th- Santa Barbara- 43
9th- Cuesta- 29

100 meters-

1st- Charles Lee- 10.4

200 meters-

1st- Charles Lee- 20.9

High Jump-

5th- Malcolm Snell- 6' 4"

Long Jump-

4th- Iman Williams- 23'4"

Shot Put-

1st- Jeff Macrea- 44'11.5"

1600 meter relay-

2nd- Valley- 3:17.7

Women-
1st- Bakersfield- 260
2nd- Santa Barbara- 107
3rd- Moorpark- 106.5
4th- L.A. Valley- 99
5th- Ventura- 90
6th- Santa Monica- 70
7th- Cuesta- 57.5
8th- Glendale- 38
9th- West L.A.- 28

800 meters-
7th- Piroska Farkas- 2:35.5

1500 meters-

3rd- Patricia Loera- 5:03.3

3000 Meters-

1st- Marisol Barajas- 10:30.7
2nd- Patricia Loera- 10:54.9
4th- Dena Lumel- 11:09.9
6th- Yadira Estrada- 1:18.8

5000 meters-

1st- Marisol Barajas- 18:18.7
4th- Patricia Loera- 19:25.1
6th- Yadira Estrada- 19:42.4

10000 meters-

1st- Wendy Vallejo- 39:54.6
2nd- Odilly Parada- 45:55.2

Shot Put-

1st- Emmy Vargas- 41'8"

Discus-

2nd- Emmy Vargas- 127'7"

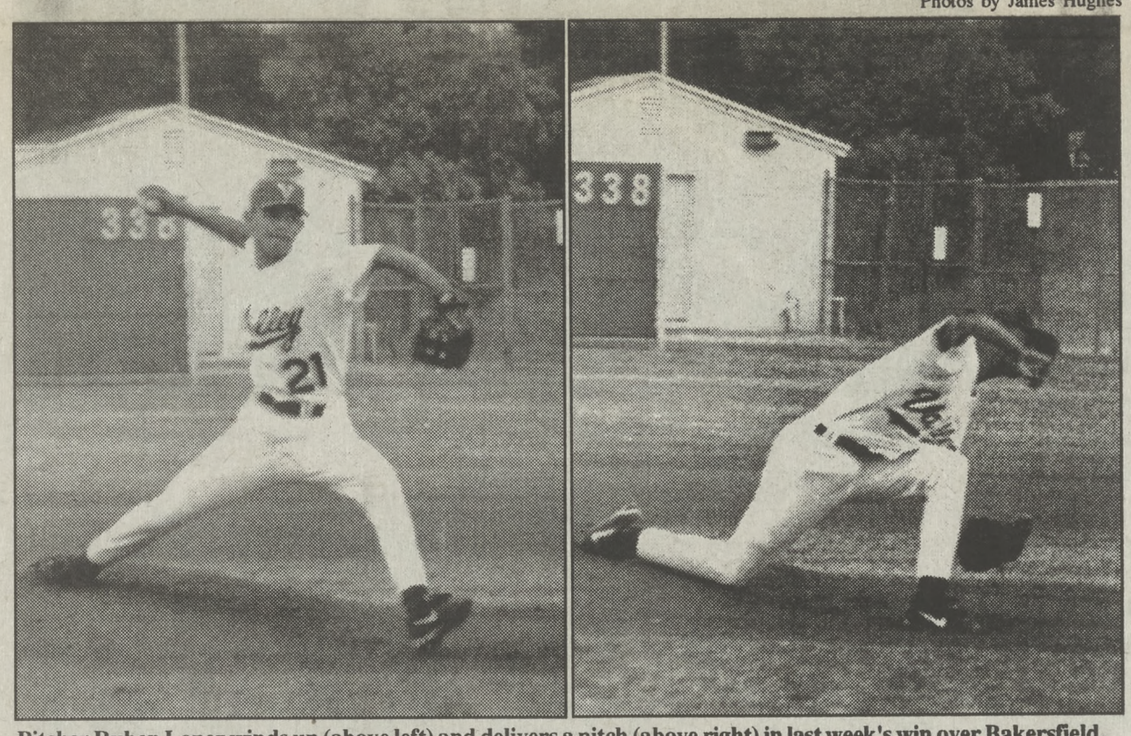
Hammer-

5th -Emmy Vargas- 112'3"

Carolla Danielsson/Valley Star

Marisol Barajas takes off around the track in the 1500 meter at the Riverside Track Classic and helps the team make it to the Western States Conference Championship Track Meet.

Photos by James Hughes



Pitcher Ruben Lopez winds up (above left) and delivers a pitch (above right) in last week's win over Bakersfield.

Baseball Results and Remaining Schedule

Day	Score		Day	Time	Opponent	Site
April 26	Glendale - 5	Valley - 4	May 1	2:30	Bakersfield	Bakersfield
April 29	Valley - 7	Mission - 6	May 3	1:00	Pierce	Valley

Swim and Dive Meet Results

Western State Conference Meet
Women: 364 pts. third place

50 backstroke- Jenifer Kaufmann- 30.23 second place

50 breaststroke- Kari Rittmiller- third place

100 backstroke- Jenifer Kaufmann- 1:05.90 fifth place

100 breaststroke- Kari Rittmiller- 1:17.13third place

1 meter dive- Shayna Douglas- third place

3 meter dive- Shayna Douglas- third place

Men: 427 pts. fourth place

400 individual Medley- Aaron Robinson- 4:26.12 first place, Nate Burris- fourth place, Meet, Lupe Sanches- fifth place,

100 butterfly- Paul Lovejoy- 55.01 third place

200 butterfly- Paul Lovejoy- 2:05.12 third place, Aaron Robinson- fourth place

100 breaststroke- Lupe Sanches, fourth place

200 breaststroke- Lupe Sanches, fourth place

500 freestyle- Aaron Robinson- fifth place

Carolla Danielsson/Valley Star

Anna Hartsfield, shows in a past meet, why the Valley Swim and Dive teams fared so well in the Western States Conference Championships.

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